the Milliwatt

The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

January, 2005

MILLIWATT Ceases Distribution via Snail Mail
THIS IS YOUR LAST HARD-COPY ISSUE!

The Board of Directors of The BRATS has voted to do away with printing and mailing *The MILLIWATT* each month. From now on, if you wish to receive a hard copy of *the MILLIWATT*, you must notify us in writing as indicated below. To see and print your *MILLIWATT* each month,. Go to The BRATS home page at http://www.bratsatv.org click on *MILLIWATT* in the upper left hand corner, and then on the issue you want. You can then read it on the screen or print it out. We are also considering posting it on a Yahoo reflector so you can subscribe to it (free) and receive it each month via e-mail. If you want your hard copy, send us an email (mayerzimmerman@netzero.com) or drop us a line to BRATS/W3XGK, P.O. Box 5915; Baltimore, MD 21282-5915.

BRATS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

Our four officers and 5 of the 10 Board members were elected on December 14. Our President, Ed, N3GXH and our perennial Secretary and Treasurer, Mayer, W3GXK and Les, W3GXT were re-elected. Skip, N3DGY was voted in as Vice President in an uncontested election.. New Board members through December, 2006 are: Dan, N3WJH; Bob, KC3FI; Laura, KB3LJM; Russ, N3YI; and Ray, KB3KYM. Remaining on the Board through December, 2005 are KA3IDB, W3ZQI. K3RGG, KD7QOT, and KB3FIF.

HAMFEST MOVES BACK TO HOWARD COUNTY !

The 2005 edition of the Famous BRATS Maryland Hamfest and Computer Fest will take place on **SUNDAY, JULY 24th 2005** at the **Howard County Fairgrounds**. Budgetary considerations necessitated our re-examining the previous venue. We look forward to yet another successful hamfest this summer.

Happy New Year!

the Milliwatt

The award-winning monthly publication of The BRATS. Items contained herein may be reprinted with credit.

Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXK, Editor

29 ½

In journalism, "30" signifies a final column or editorial. This is not the "30" issue of The MILLIWATT. It is only the last time we will mail out close to 200 hard copies. You will be able to read and/or download TheMILLIWATT on the BRATS web page, at http://www.bratsatv.org. If, for some reason, you wish to continue to receive a hard copy each month, we will do our best to accommodate you. Just send me an e-mail or a note via sail mail to the BRATS post office box. If you have any comments about The Milliwatt, its content or its distribution, or anything at all, please feel free to let us know . Thanks, 73, and 29 ½, Mayer, W3GXK

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The Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915
a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and a non-profit corporation in the State of Maryland.

home page: **http://www.bratsatv.org**
e-mail: mail@bratsatv.org
InfoLine: 410- 461-0086
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Pikesville Library, 1301 Reisterstown Rd., Pikesville, MD.
President: Ed Rosen, N3GXH
Vice Pres: Ian Millet, N3CVA
Secretary: Mayer D. Zimmerman, W3GXK
Treasurer: Les McClure, W3GXT
Webmaster: Laura Faussone, KB3LJM
Chairman of the Board: Heru Walmsley, W3WV
Vice Chairman, Technical: Mike Dees, N3EZD
Vice Chairman, Operations: Ian Millet, N3CVA

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BRATS Repeaters

BRATS Linked Repeater System:
WB3DZO: 147.03+, 224.96-, 448.325-
BRATS Stand-alone Repeater:
443.350+
BRATS APRS Network Node:
W3GXT-2: 144.390 APRS
BRATS Packet Nodes
W3GXK-5 145.05
W3GXT-10 224.52
BRATS ATV Repeater System:
W3WCQ: inputs: 426.25, 1253.25
outputs: 439.25. 911.25

BRATS WEEKLY NETS

Mon. 11:45 Informal ATV Net, W3WVV
Mon. 9 PM Traffic & Info Net, W3GXK
Tues. 9 PM Horsetraders Net, KA3CEA
Wed. 9 PM BRATS ATV Net
Thurs. 9 PM BRATS ATV Net
Sat. 1 PM. News Bulletin, W3GXK
Sat. 1:20 BRATS Answer Men W3WVV, N3GXH
As Needed: Weather/Emergency Net
Skywarn Net

BRATS Board of Directors

Through 12/05: KA3IDB, W3ZQI, K3RGG, KD7OQT, KB3FIF
Through 12/06: N3WJH, N3YI, KB3KYM, KB3LJM, KC3FI

BRATS MEETINGS

Second Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Pikesville Library
1301 Reisterstown Road

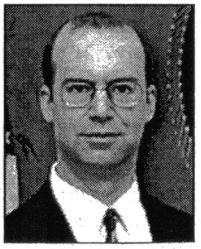
NEXT BRATS MEETING

Tuesday, January 11, 2005
7:30 PM, Pikesville Library

DUES after January 1, 2005:
Regular Membership: $15
Retired/Disabled/Student: $10
Entire Family of hams: $20
Renew NOW and save!

Ham Radio Operators to Skip Rose Parade:

Ham Radio Operators won't be helping the annual Tournament of Roses in Pasadena, California this year. Nextel is a corporate sponsor of the parade, and has donated a number of phones to the Tournament. Most parade organizers now have cell phones, and don't need a radio operator shadowing their every move. Over the years, the radio amateurs have tracked floats with GPS devices, installed a dozen video cameras up and down the parade route and provided valuable communications for both the parade and viewers. But negotiations with the radio amateurs broke down Sunday, and the radio amateurs' board voted to back out of the Jan. 1, 2005, parade.



Senate Confirms Adelstein for new FCC term

The US Senate has confirmed the White House nomination of FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein to remain on the FCC until June 30, 2008. Adelstein said he was gratified to have the opportunity to continue to serve. "The issues before us are critical to our economy and touch people in deeply personal ways," he said in a statement following his November 20 confirmation. "I will continue to promote the interests of the American public in having access to the best possible communications opportunities in the world." Adelstein, one of two Democrats on the five-member FCC, joined the FCC in November 2002. A protégé of and former aide to US Sente Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), Adelstein is the first South Dakotan ever to serve on the FCC. The term of the FCC's other Democrat, Commissioner Michael J. Copps, does not expire until next year.

Foundation For Amateur Radio solicits scholarship applications

The Foundation for Amateur Radio Inc (FAR), a non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, DC, plans to administer more than 55 scholarships for the 2005-2006 academic year to assist radio amateurs. Awards range from $500 to $2500. Comprised of approximately 50 member organizations, FAR fully funds several of these scholarships with income from grants and the annual F.A.R.Fest. FAR administers the remaining grants without cost to the donors. FAR invites Amateur Radio licensees planning to pursue a full-time course of study beyond high school and now enrolled in or accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school to compete for these scholarships. Preference in some cases goes to residents of specific geographical areas or to those pursuing certain programs of study. Additional information and an application form is available by sending a letter or QSL card postmarked prior to April 30, 2005, to **FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738**. The Foundation for Amateur Radio is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

Martin's moonmobile on the roll

Concert pianist and ham radio operator Martin Berkofsky, KC3RE, says his busy performance schedule, with concerts in Armenia, Poland, Russia and elsewhere, has not kept him off the air. "It has been a busy time," he told ARRL, "but I have started operating 144 MHz EME from the car." An ARRL member home-based in Virginia, Berkofsky completed his 880-mile "Celebrate Life Run" from Tulsa to the Chicago area in 2003 to raise money for cancer research and celebrate his recovery from the disease. He says he's available for EME moonrise/moonset skeds. "Operation is QRP--160 W and 18 elements--but I have made two contacts so far: W5UN and I2FAK," he notes. He's only operating on CW at the moment but says he plans to be up and running with digital modes in the future.

Maybe they took the name too literally:

Talk about a mix-up. United Airlines accidentally shipped two German sheperds to Germany instead of Fort Lauderdale. The pets were accompanying a couple who had just moved to South Florida, reports Local 10 TV of Miami. When the couple checked their claim check for their pets, they notice the destination was listed as FRA — or Frankfurt — instead of FLL for Fort Lauderdale. "We got our luggage — no dogs," said owner Ramiro Diaz, who flew United from San Francisco to Fort Lauderdale via the airline's Washington Dulles hub. "That's the most pathetic mistake that can happen. It's OK when you lose luggage, but life, like a pet, that's beyond comprehension." United apologized for the incident and the dogs were to be flown back to Miami the following day.

Weird goes the extra mile

The cat's out of the bag

A flight between Brussels and Vienna was scratched in midair Aug. 9 because of an angry cat. The feline, traveling on the SN Brussels Airlines flight, apparently was released from its cage by a child and slinked into the cockpit when crew meals were served. After the cat resisted being shooed out and scratched a co-pilot on the arm, the pilot turned the plane back to Brussels and made an emergency landing.
The kitty was grounded.

Full monty screening

Most folks slip off their jackets and shoes at airport security checkpoints. A passenger at the Minneapolis airport took the dressing-down a step further. Police said a screener was waving a metal-detecting wand over the man's pants in July when he dropped his trousers to reveal he wasn't wearing underwear. "There, how do you like your job?" he said, according to a police report. He later pleaded guilty to indecent exposure and paid a $163 fine. "We needed to take some action on that," airport police Lt. Matt Christenson told the Associated Press. "Otherwise, everybody would be dropping their pants."

Punching out

Seeing a passenger apparently deep in slumber as a train rolled toward York, England, a conductor discreetly stamped and returned the man's ticket. When the train arrived at the station, the rider couldn't be budged, and paramedics were summoned. "It turned out that the passenger had expired long before his ticket ever did,' said a report in the British Transport Police's magazine.

The buzzing trash bin

An airport in Brisbane, Australia, was evacuated Oct. 3 after a security officer heard a humming noise in a trash can and called the bomb squad. After 45 minutes, passengers and staffers were allowed back into Mackay Airport. The buzzing device turned out to be a vibrating sex toy.

TSA accused of spilling cremated remains in fliers' luggage

A passenger is suing the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), alleging that a federal screener forced open a sealed box in her backpack that contained that cremated remains of a relative. "I could feel and I could see like sand all through the backpack," Lisa Miller told NBC TV affiliate King 5 of Seattle. "The TSA broke open the container with the remains and spilled it." The TSA did not comment on the case, but did make public a set of guidelines to funeral homes on how to transport cremated remains on commercial flights. In the suit, Miller is asking for $175,000 in damages, in addition to compensation for emotional distress, reports TV station NBC 7/39 of San Diego. In a story written before the incident, The News & Observer of Raleigh wrote "urns may baffle screeners," adding that "cremation (and) travel (are) an uneasy mix." That certainly appears to be proven true by this incident.

REMINDER:

Don't forget to view your next MILLIWATT on line: http://www.bratsatv.org

Net surfing, cell calls on planes closer

Want to surf the Net and phone the office at 35,000 feet? High-speed Internet and cell phone service in airplanes moved big steps closer to reality Wednesday, with regulators paving the way for both offerings in as soon as two years. In-flight broadband is further along than cell phone service. The Federal Communications Commission voted Wednesday to rearrange a chunk of spectrum to permit broadband in the skies by 2006. An auction for companies to bid for the airwaves will be held next year. Today, many domestic flights offer instant messaging, text messaging and e-mail for $4 to $10 a flight. Broadband, however, would let passengers shop online and tap into corporate networks. In-flight broadband is available today only through satellite-based systems on international flights because the service is pricey and requires heavy equipment that would be cumbersome for narrow-body domestic airlines. The new services would cost as little as $5 to $10 a flight. They would work by sending signals to an antenna on the plane, which would relay them to towers on the ground. The FCC had to resolve a dispute among wireless carriers. Verizon Airfone argues only one company could use the spectrum. AirCell and Boeing say at least two could share the airwaves without interfering with each other. That would create competition, likely \leading to lower prices and more features for passengers. The FCC agreed to set up the auction so that whichever carrier bids the most for the total spectrum — a single provider, or two that want to share — would win the airwaves. But Democratic Commissioners Jonathan Adelstein and Michael Copps partly dissented. They said a single company would likely be willing to pay a premium to enjoy the benefits of a monopoly. The FCC also asked for public comment on a plan to lift its ban on cell phone use. Today, Verizon Airfone offers a little-used seatback phone service on many planes that costs $3.99 a minute. The FCC has long feared that letting passengers use their own cell phones would cause interference with hundreds of antenna towers on the ground, clogging networks. But new technology allows signals to be sent to a small airplane antenna, which would beam the signals to designated on-ground towers on special channels. Even if the FCC eases its rules, the Federal Aviation Administration would also have to lift its ban on airplane cell phone use. The FAA worries about interference with navigation equipment. Also, airlines that install antenna systems would have to find a way to share revenue with cell phone carriers that typically offer flat-rate plans. There are also social concerns. "Many passengers don't relish the idea of sitting next to someone yelling into their cell phones for an entire six-hour flight," Adelstein says. FCC Chairman Michael Powell notes: "Our job is to make communications possible. Society, the airlines and the FAA will have a lot more to say about how and in what manner these services can function."

Cell phone talk still up in the air:

The FCC may be moving to ease the ban on some wireless use during flights, but the Association of Flight Attendants (AFA) isn't happy about the use of cell phones in the air. United Press International says they fear widespread use of wireless devices in the confined space of an aircraft cabin potentially could interfere with an aircraft's communications and navigation systems, compromise safety and increase conflicts between passengers and crew. An AFA representative called for more research before lifting the prohibition. "While this process is unfolding, attempts to weaken the long-standing FCC prohibition will only confuse the public, and any widespread misperception by travelers that cell phone use in flight is now intrinsically safe might well prove catastrophic," said Chris Witkowski, director of the AFA Air Safety, Health and Security Department.

Frustrated by delays, Saudi man divorces wife at airport:

It's no secret that flight delays can be stressful, but that was apparently enough to do in one couple in Saudi Arabia. A Saudi man divorced his wife after she refused to return home and take another flight. He apparently reached his breaking point after spending 14 hours at Bisha airport in the south part of the Kingdom, waiting out an apparently maddening set of delays. The divorce was granted at the airport British news service Ananova quotes the Arabic-language Saudi daily paper al-Yaum as reporting. Saud Arabia allows men to receive a divorce on request, while women must win a legal decision for the right.

EXPERIMENTAL LICENSEES MOVING LOW-FREQUENCY AGENDA FORWARD

With no Amateur Radio low-frequency allocation in North America, stations operating under FCC Part 5 Experimental licenses<https://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/oet/cf/els/index.cfm> in the US or under special experimental authorizations in Canada nonetheless continue to research the nether regions of the radio spectrum. By and large, LF experimentation is occurring in the vicinity of 136 kHz--typically 135.7 to 137.8 kHz--where amateur allocations already exist elsewhere in the world. The FCC rejected the ARRL's 1998 petition for LF allocations at 135.7 to 137.8 kHz and 160 to 190 kHz, however, after electric utilities objected that ham radio transmissions might interfere with power line carrier (PLC) signals used to control the power grid.

"Most of the new LF activity of Part 5 licensees has been in the shared 137 kHz amateur allocation available in some parts of the world," says low-frequency experimenter Laurence Howell, KL1X/5. "Although not in the\Amateur Radio Service, these Part 5 experimental stations continue to add to our knowledge on propagation and engineering." The holder of Part 5 Experimental license WD2XDW, Howell--who's also GM4DMA--previously operated LF from Alaska. He's since relocated to Oklahoma, and has now resumed his LF work on 137.7752 and 137.7756 kHz. Already he's reporting some spectacular success, despite antenna limitations. On October 28, New Zealand LFer Mike McAlevey, ZL4OL, copiedWD2XDW's 137 kHz carrier "bursts" over a path of more than 13,000 km (8000 miles). Howell believes the reception probably marked the first transpacificreception of a US-generated signal. "The land mass between Oklahoma andthe ocean was considered to be a large obstacle to long-range communications," Howell remarked, "but obviously not." The next day, Jim Moritz, M0BMU, copied the LF signals of three North American in the vicinity of 137 kHz (137.777 kHz)--including Howell'sWD2XDW and WD2XES, operated by John Andrews, W1TAG, in Massachusetts--using Argo software, which can detect signals not otherwise readable. The third station, Joe Craig, VO1NA, in Newfoundland, has been operating a beacon on 137 kHz. Howell says, VO1NA's signals serve as a bellwether of LF transatlantic propagation. LF signals of European amateurs likewise are heard in North America.

On November 12, Andrews and another LF experimenter in Massachusetts completed the first two-way data exchange between Part 5 Experimental license stations on 137 kHz. Andrews worked Warren Ziegler, K2ORS, operating as WD2XGJ in Wayland, using conventional CW. The stations are about 25 miles apart, and both used loop antennas for transmitting. Jay Rusgrove, W1VD, some 100 miles to the south in Connecticut, monitored and recorded the QSO. In British Columbia, Lorne Tilley, VE7TIL, and Steve McDonald, VE7SL, have been heard throughout North America on LF. Howell says both are starting a formal study of variances in groundwave propagation. Howell says the disturbed solar conditions earlier this month wiped outlong-haul paths through or close to the auroral oval during nighttime hours--especially at higher latitudes. He notes, however, that daytimesignals over paths of between 1000 and 1500 km (620 and 930 miles) showedincreased signal strengths during the disturbances. Howell has more LF information on his Web site <http://myweb.cableone.net/flow>.

FCC acts on long-distance cordless telephone complaint

The FCC in November responded to a complaint from the Holmesburg (Pennsylvania) Amateur Radio Club about interference on 2 meters from a high-powered cordless telephone. FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth forwarded information from the club to the FCC Philadelphia District Office on November 22. The club claimed that the cordless telephone system was causing interference on its repeater's 146.080 MHz input frequency. On November 27, an agent from the Philadelphia District Office investigated the complaint and determined that a resident of Glassboro, New Jersey, was operating a "Senao High Quality Cordless Telephone," model SN-358. The base unit appeared to operate on 146.080 MHz, while the handset appeared to operate on 228.960 MHz (specifications listed on Senao's Web site indicate the model SN-358 handset operates on 268 MHz and the base on 394 MHz). During an on-site inspection, the telephone's owner voluntarily surrendered the unit to the FCC agent. The telephone owner asserted that he'd purchased the system, which reportedly did not display an FCC certification notice, from an eBay advertiser. The FCC's Philadelphia District Office is investigating the matter further.

FCC approves first software defined radio --

The FCC announced November 19 that it has approved, for the first time, use of a software defined radio (SDR) device in the US. This new class of equipment allows users to share limited spectrum, increases flexibility and reduces interference concerns. "This is the first step in what may prove to be a radio technology revolution," said FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell. "The industry's pioneering work to find more creative and efficient use of our airwaves will continue to bring benefits to consumers." The Laboratory Division of the Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology issued a Grant of Certification to Vanu Inc, a software development company, for a cellular base station transmitter. SDRs can change frequency range, mode or output power without resorting to hardware changes or switches. This programmable capacity permits radios to be highly adaptable to changing needs, protocols and environments. The FCC says Vanu has demonstrated that its device complies with the Commission's rules and has shown that its software has sufficient controls that the device cannot be modified to operate outside its Commission-approved parameters. An FCC rule making proceeding, ET Docket 03-108, is pending to further streamline SDR requirements, and the Commission is working with each applicant on a case-by-case basis to facilitate compliance with current rules. The ARRL has told the FCC that Amateur Radio "is a fertile testing ground" for SDR technology and that the technology would be especially valuable to facilitate disaster communications.

FCC Fines Trucking Centers for Marketing Illegal "Amateur" Transceivers

The FCC has proposed fining Pilot Travel Centers LLC $125,000 for allegedly marketing unauthorized RF devices--specifically, transceivers labeled as Amateur Radio Service (ARS) equipment but intended for use on both Citizens Band and amateur frequencies. CB transmitters must receive FCC certification--formally called "type acceptance." Amateur Radio equipment does not require FCC certification. The Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) released November 22 asserts that Pilot continued to market CB transceivers l labeled as amateur gear despite multiple citations and warnings.

FCC permits new unlicensed wideband devices, affirms UWB rules

The FCC has adopted a Second Report and Order and Second Memorandum Opinion and Order in ET Docket 98-153 to promote introduction of new unlicensed wideband devices in the 6 GHz, 17 Ghz and 24 GHz bands. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the League will examine the final rules "to determine their impact on the amateur 24-GHz allocation and, if necessary, take steps to defend the continued usefulness of this important international allocation." The wideband devices will include automotive safety radar systems and tracking systems for personnel location and inventory control. The Commission previously established regulations to permit marketing and operating certain types of new products incorporating ultra-wideband (UWB) technology. Partly in response to petitions for reconsideration of the First Report and Order (R&O) in this proceeding, the Commission proposed further changes to the Part 15 regulations for wideband devices. In the Second R&O, the Commission amended its rules for general Part 15 unlicensed operations that use wide bandwidths but are not now classified as UWB devices. It increased the peak power limits and reduced the unwanted emission levels for three frequency bands already available for unlicensed operation: 5925-7250 MHz, 16.2-17.2 GHz, and 23.12-29 GHz. Higher peak power limits in these bands will facilitate wideband operations such as short-range communication, collision avoidance, inventory control and tracking systems, the Commission said. The FCC also amended its measurement procedures to permit frequency-hopped, swept frequency, and gated systems operating within these bands to be measured in their normal operating mode. The Commission made no major changes to current UWB technical requirements and made only a minor change to the measurement procedure applied to gated UWB vehicular radar systems. The FCC also dismissed petitions for reconsideration filed by the Satellite Industry Association and by Cingular Inc, and it reaffirmed UWB decisions it adopted in its First R&O.

Weekend Express Tech License Class February 5-6, Westminster

The Carroll Co., ARC's Training and Education Committee will hold a weekend "Express" course to prepare candidates for the Technician Class Amateur Radio license exam. Instructors will be available for help after the Saturday session. Following the Sunday session, an ARRL Volunteer exam will be administered.
Sat. Feb 5th: 9 AM to 12 Noon; 1 PM to 4 PM
Sunday, Feb 6th : 12 Noon to 5 PM. Review Session, 5 to 6 PM. Exams at 6 PM.
Carroll County Emergency Operations Center bldg, 1345 Washington Rd. (MD 32 at Kate Wagner Rd). Westminster. Free. Required fee for license exam $12.Pre-registration required by January 24th.
Contact Al Bisasky, K3ZE, k3ze@verizon.net or at 410-795-1131.

CAATN MEETING A SUCCESS

We had an excellent meeting (of the central Atlantic Amateur Television Network- CAATN) at the Historical Electronics Museum in Baltimore on Sunday, December 5.
Dave, KC3AM, walked us through a flow chart showing how the ATV system is working at this time \from Wilmington, DE via the relay at Bay View, MD and to the Baltimore ATV repeater.
John, W3HMS presented us with a look into the microwave area with a video showing equipment related to the SHF frequencies.
Gary, WA3CPO, gave us many items to think about as we looked at frequencies that we could use for linking along the paths that we have. Some math was involved and the microwaves look much better for linking now. Thank you to everyone at the meeting for making it such a success. Many thanks to the BRATS organization for providing a well stocked lunch spread. The next meeting will be on the battleship New Jersey in the Spring.
73, Ron, K3ZKO

New EchoLink Node in Baghdad:

There is a new EchoLink node in Baghdad is now on the air 24x7it operates on 144.225 in Baghdad the node number is 209608 and the callsign is yi1irq-l . for more information on echolink visit http://www.echolink.org 73 Ian G3ZHI http://www.qsl.net/g3zhi- many ham radio links

AOR donates digital voice/image units to W1AW

AOR USA has donated two ARD9800 digital voice/image units to Maxim Memorial Station W1AW. The ARD9800 Fast Radio Modem adds digital SSB voice capability to any HF transceiver without having to modify the radio. With the addition of an optional memory module, the unit also enables transmission of high-quality digital images. AOR USA Executive Vice President Taka Nakayama, KW6I, visited W1AW and ARRL Headquarters November 15 to present the ARD9800 units. "AOR is proud to bring digital HF voice communications to W1AW," Nakayama said. "We believe Hiram Percy Maxim would be genuinely excited at this leap in technology." Accepting on behalf of ARRL was W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. "We thank AOR USA very much for these units, which are installed as part of the equipment complement in two of our operating studios," Carcia said. "The ARD9800 enhances W1AW's efforts to keep up with current technology and will provide visiting operators a chance to experiment with digital \udio on HF."

GET YOUR *MILLIWATT* ON LINE!

http://www.bratsatv.org Click on ***MILLIWATT*** and then on the issue you want.

NEXT BRATS MEETING

Tuesday, January 11, 2005
7:30 PM, Pikesville Library

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Dec. 26	RAEM Contest
	DARC Christmas Contest
Jan. 1	SARTG New Year RTTY Contest
	AGCW Happy New Year Contest
	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest
Jan. 1-2	Original QRP Contest
Jan 7	WQF QRP Party
Jan 8	Midwinter Contest, CW
Jan 8-9	ARRL RTTY Roundup
	North American QSO Party, CW
	EUCW 160 m. Contest
Jan. 9	NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW
	DARC 10-Meter Contest
	Kids Day Contest
Jan. 15-16	LZ Open Contest
	Hunting Lions in the Air
	Hungarian DX Contest
	North American QSO Party, SSB
Jan. 22-23	BARTG RTTY Sprint
Jan. 22-24	ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
Jan. 29-30	REF Contest, CW
	UBA DX Contest, SSB
	UK DX Contest, RTTY

ARRL Raises Exam Fee

Effective January 1, The ARRL VEC will charge $14 per VE Exam rather than $12. Clubs may retain $6 of that fee for administrative expenses.

LAST CHANCE TO RENEW AT THE OLD RATE!

After January 1, dues will increase to $15/$10. Renew NOW and save! You can renew for 2 or 3 years at the old rate. Do it now! Thanks!

ARRL DX BULLETIN

KUWAIT, 9K. Murtada, 9K2MU has been active on 160 meters around0300z. QSL direct via WA4JTK.
JAPAN, JA. Special event station **8N0SON** is QRV during the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Nagano until March 5, 2005. QSL via JF0JYR.
MONGOLIA, JT. Timur, JT1BE has been QRV using RTTY on 20 meters around 0130z. QSL direct.
ANTARCTICA. Mike, KC4AAA is QRV from the South Pole and has been active on 20 meters SSB from 0040 to 0200z. QSL via K1IED.
SUDAN, ST. Hugo, ST2YJ has been QRV on 30 meters around 1700z. QSLvia LA4YW.

KUWAIT, 9K. Faisal, 9K2ID has been QRV on 15 meters around 1130 to1230z. QSL direct.
MALAWI, 7Q. Les, 7Q7LA has been QRV on 40 meters CW around 0300z.QSL direct via G0IAS.
SOMALIA, T5. Joe, VA6JWT is QRV as 6O0JT from Galkayo. QSL via operator's instructions.
MALI, TZ. Mac, TZ6JA has been QRV on 80 meters around 0400z and then 40 meters around 0600 to 0700z. QSL via JA3EMU.

IRAN, EP. Lada, EP3PTT has been QRV from the PTT club station, and have been active on 20 meters CW around 1045z and then 20 meters SSB around 1300z. QSL this operation via OK1LO.
PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Jerry, P29ZAD has been QRV 10 meters around 2240z. QSL direct.
BRUNEI, V8. V85SS has been QRV on 30 meters around 0730z, 40 meters around 1000z and 17 meters around 0530z.
INDONESIA, YB. Halim, YB1A has been QRV on 40 meters using CWaround 2230 to 2315z.

Guinness World Records Recognizes High-Speed Telegraphy Achievement:

Guinness World Records Ltd has recognized the high-speed telegraphy achievement of Andrei Bindasov, EU7KI. "On 6 May 2003 Andrei Bindasov (Belarus) transmitted 216 marks of mixed text per minute during the 5th International Amateur Radio Union World Championship in High Speed Telegraphy in Belarus," the Guinness database listing states. Witnessing the accomplishment in Minsk were HST International Referee Oscar Verbanck, ON5ME, Region 1 Executive Committee member Panayot Danev, LZ1US, and IARU Region 1 HST Coordinator Oliver Tabakovski, Z32TO. Bindasov says he received the official certificate from Guinness November 24. Bindasov also sent 271 letters per minute and 230 figures per minute during those phases of the 2003 HST competition http://www.qsl.net/yo4kca/hstrules.htm.

Hamfests

Wednesday, Jan. 26 – BARC Minifest Timonium Fairgrounds, Home Arts Bldg. Approx. 4-10 PM . Timonium, MD.

Sunday, January 30 – MMARC Post-Holiday Hamfest, Odenton Volunteer Fire Dept. Hall, 1425 Annapolis Blvd (Rte. 175) Odenton, MD. Contact: Frank, N3SEO; 410-647-3335 n3seo@aol.com (416.805/R)

Sunday, February 20: Richmond Frostfest The Showplace, 3000 Mechanicsville Tpke, Route 360, Richmond, VA. Contact: Phil, KD4BMQ, 804-334-0051 (146.88/R)

VE EXAMS

2nd Saturday, 1 PM: Davidsonville, by AARC Register 12 Noon. Bob, AA3RR 410-347-8193.
3rd Saturday, 9 AM, Laurel, by LARC, at 384 Main St. Laurel, MD John Creel, WB3GXW, 301-572-5124
4th Tuesday, 6 PM: Linthicum, MD at Historical Electronics Museum. Harold, WB4OGP home: 410-757-0493; wk. 410-712-6829

2005 BARC VE EXAMS

At the BARC Clubhouse:
12360 Owings Mills Blvd. Owings Mills
Saturdays: Feb. 5, March 5, May 7, June 4, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Nov. 5
Sundays; Jan. 2, July 3, October 2.
Register at 1 PM, exams at 2 P.M.
Call Rusty, N3WKE, 410-247-0578
or e-mail: N3WKE@arrl.net
(Thanks, Russ, N3YI)

2005 Aero Club Exams

At White Marsh Library: Jan 29, May 28, July 24, Sept. 24, Nov. 19
At Essex Library: March 19th;
Register at 1 PM, Exams at 1:30 PM
Contact Frank, AC3P 410-687-7209
Or e-mail: AC3P@arrl.net
(Thanks, Neil, W3ZQI)

milliwatt swap shop

ads are free and get results!
Send ad to: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or e-mail to: mayerzimmerman@netzero.com

FOR SALE: The famous W3GXK low-band station. Confirmed over 250 Countries, WAS on 10, 15 and 20 meters! ICOM 730 xcvr. (fan needs some work), PS-15 power supply, MFJ 481 Grandmaster memory keyer, Bencher BY2 silver paddle, MFJ 900 Econo Tuner, Heath HM102 power/swr meter, Heath HD 1426 Field Strength meter. Heath 24-hour station clock. National NC-183 short wave receiver (with ham bands) . Make me a reasonable offer (prefer package deal). Mayer, W3GXK. 410-786-6839 or e-mail mayerzimmerman@netzero.com

WANTED: Uniden scanner 13.8v home AC adapter. Email Russ, N3YI: n3yi@yahoo.com

FOR SALE: ATV equipment. PC Electronics TX23-11 1 watt transmitter on 1253 MHz, PCEL TVC 12G \down converter. Both new and unused but on my shelf for some time. Asking $250 for the transmitter and $75 for the converter, both for$300. Ron, W6VCF. rolney@thegrid.net

FOR SALE: *HUGE desk*- Perfect for your ham shack, 78W x 40D x 32.5H . 3 large drawers on each side, two small drawers in the center, many cubbies for storage Wired for many 110 connections. $150. Call 410-655-4931.

FOR SALE: MFJ deluxe Versa Tuner II, model MFJ949D, in good working condition, $70. John, KA3ZTC. e-mail: ka3ztc1@juno.com or call me on the repeater.

DON'T NEED YOUR AD TO RUN AGAIN?
Send us an e-mail and let us know.
mayerzimmerman@netrzero.com

milliwatt swap shop

ads are free and get results!

Send ad to: BRATS, P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915, or e-mail to: mayerzimmerman@netzero.com

WANTED: AC Gilbert erector sets; old, new arge, small, need not be complete. CASH paid Lewis, 410-296-4874.

Antique Radio Repair , Restoration
Eric, WA3TAD, Audio-Visual Service/Retro Radio 3401 Chestnut Avenue; Baltimore, MD 21211. 410-467-3620;. wa3tad@comcast.net

FREE! I have a crank-up tower that goes up to 40 ft. including ground mounting base. Free for anyone who could use it, but you transport. It is a steel triangle tubing type. If no one wants it, I plan to cut it up for scrap. John English AA3OW. aa3ow@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: 40 foot tower, big dish, antenna, rotor. You take down. Make offer . Martin Cawley, 410-229-8200

FOR SALE: ADI AR-146 2-mtr. mobile rig. Very dependable, includes mounting bracket, lighter plug adapter, magmount antenna, $125. Yaesu FT50R dualband 2-mtr./440. Scans from 76 MHz to 999 MHz (less cell). Extra battery, CA-15 charger, ear/throat mike, over shoulder harness, regularly $330. Sell for $275. Contact Russ for either or both rigs: n3yi@yahoo.com

Radio Consignment Shop at Overlea Hobbies 8411 Harford Rd, Parkville, 410-665-3622. Home of fine trains, model kits, x-acto, cars, planes, ships, many radios. Yaesu FT 101ZD, Kenwood TS-820S, 930S, Heath SB 102, National NC-183, more. Dick, N3JWN, 410-488-2806.

ATTENTION: If you do **NOT** want your ad to run again, please send me an e-mail to that effect: mayerzimmerman@netzero.com

VTS – VIDEOTAPING SERVICE
Video/DVD duplications, video tape transferred to DVD. Once source up to 2 hours, $30. Standards, conversions, Call VTS toll-free at **1-877-891-1002.** BRATS Member Bob Shapiro, K2MYS, http://www.videotapingservice.com

JADE COMPUTERS, LLC
1009 Ingleside Ave, Baltimore, MD. 21228. Phone: 419-719-1246; FAX: 410-719-9494 Your answer to custom built PC, office and home networking. Reseller for Net Integrity, server, cable modem, DSL, webpage design and hosting, POS and networking. We do CPR to your CPU. Kid tested, mother approved. Order PC on line: http://www.jadecomputers.net email: joed@jadecomputers.us

FOR SALE: Heathkit CO1015w/ inverter, $75. Heathkit Security Sentinel GD-3810, $20. AUTEł Research QF-1A SSB/CW/AM filter, $40. D-104 mic, G-stand, original boxes, $45. Tektronix 604/ 716M X-Y scope, $50. WWII HiPower ant. tuner, Vac. variables, roller inductor, $120. Headphones AZDEN DM 10 , new in box, $15, TELEX C-1320 $15. Clevite Bush, $15. Panoramic adapter BC-1031C, $45. Tektronix 105 square wave generator,$ 25. Power supplies: 13.8VDC @ 20a. $40; 13.8VDC @ 35a, $50. Table mount rack cabinet, $5. Complete UHF repeater system w/ 2 Motorola hand-helds, 1 mobile xcvr, $150. W2IHY 8-band audio equalizer, noise gate, $175. Kenwood TS930SAT, needs service $150. Call Ted, W3OWN, 410-668-5580. Please leave message if you get answering machine.

WANTED: Ride to and from hamfests. Will contribute toward gasoline. I live in Baltimore City. Marv, N3BQA. 410-685-6308.

YOUR AD would have appeared in this space, if only you would have sent it to us: mayerzimmerman@netzero.com

the Milliwatt

The award-winning monthly publication of
The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
P.O. Box 5915 Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

January, 2005

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IMPORTANT REMINDER!

This is the last hard-copy *MILLIWATT* you will get, **UNLESS you notify us in writing**. If you want a hard copy each month, you MUST let us know. Send us an e-mail: mayerzimmerman@netzero.com, or drop a note to BRATS/W3GXK, P.O. Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915. Clubs and exchange newsletters will continue, you need NOT do anything. If we set up a reflector - where you can subscribe to automatically get your MILLIWATT via e-mail- we will let you know how to subscribe. Meanwhile, remember to go to http://www.bratsatv.org and click on MILLIWATT.

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ATV NETS

BRATS Nets:
Monday, 11:45 AM: W3WVV
Wednes., 9 PM, Rotating Net Control
Thursday, 9 PM, Rotating Net Control

Homepages

BRATS: http://www.bratsatv.org
HATS: (Houston ATV Society):
http://www.hats.stevens.com
Black Mountain ATV Repeater:
http://www.w6yx.stanford.edu

Coming Events

Tuesday, January 11: BRATS Meeting
7:30 PM, Pikesville Library
Wednesday, January 26: BARC Minifest
4-10 PM, Timonium Fairgrounds
Sunday, January 30 – MMARC Hamfest
Odenton VFD Hall, Odenton, MD.

Other Radio Club Meetings:

QCWA
Monday at Noon, Cactus Willie
7315 Ritchie Hwy, Glen Burnie
3rd Thursday, 1 PM: Old Country
Buffet, Joppa Rd at Satyr Hill
Last Wednes. 1 PM: Denny's
Bel Air Rd at Putty Hill
AARC: 1st and 3rd Thurs, 7:30 pm
Davidsonville Family Rec.Center,
Queen Anne Bridge Rd, Wayson
Rd. (147.105/R)
AMRAD: 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM,
Dolley Madison Library ; 1244 Oak
Ridge Ave. McLean, VA (147.21/R)
BARC: 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 PM
12360 Owings Mills Blvd. (nr. warehouse
Owings Mills, MD (146.67/R)
CARA: 4th Tuesday, Gateway Center,
Rm 401, 6751 Gateway Dr. Columbia.
South off Rte. 175 (147.135/R)

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BRATS Membership Renewal Regular $15; Retired/Disabled./Student $10; Family $20
Name_____ Call_____ Brats No. _____
Address_____ City/State/Zip_____
e-mail_____ **MAIL TO: BRATS, Box 5915; Baltimore, MD 21282**
NOTE: Dues mailed prior to January 1 may be paid at the OLD rate.